This Issue of the A. F. of L. Weekly News Service Consists of 2 Pages

The A. F. of L. Weekly News Service gives news accounts and editorial interpretations of matters affecting labor occurring in the industrial, legislative, and judicial fields, and contains other information of benefit to the trade union movement.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR
WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

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WHOLE NO. 1446 WILLIAM GREEN, President WASHINGTON, D. C., SATURDAY, DECEMBER 31, 1938 FRANK MORRISON, Secretary-Treasurer VOL. 28, NO. 53

Nothing can bring you peace but the triumph of principles.—Ralph Waldo Emerson.

Labor Demands Real Partnership With Capital in Production, Watt Declares

American Workers Delegate to International Labor Organization Tells Managers of Industry That Human Rights Are Superior to Property Rights and That Totalitarian Governments Are Based on False Formula That the People Exist For the State; Strong Labor Movement Is Bar to Fascism; Anti-Social Results of Labor Displacing Machinery Must Be Neutralized by Shorter Hours and Higher Wages to Buy Increased Output; Hits Price Competition Financed by Wage Cuts; Condemns Management Policies Based on Stool Pigeons and Labor Spies.

Editor's Note.—On September 20, 1938, Robert J. Watt, American Workers Delegate to the International Labor Organization, Geneva, Switzerland, delivered an address on "Labor's Aims and Responsibilities" before the Seventh International Management Congress, at Washington, D. C. C. S. Ching, Director of Industrial Relations of U. S. Rubber Products, Inc., was chairman of the session at which Mr. Watt spoke. Out of "courtesy" to the delegates from the European countries dominated by dictatorshpis, the publicity agency of the Management Congress eliminated from the press releases those portions of Mr. Watt's address referring to the Totalitarian State and Fascism. The following is the complete and uncensored text of Mr. Watt's address as he delivered it to the Congress.

Before proceeding to describe "Labor's Aims and Responsibilities," let me make it clear that I am talking simply as one labor leader expressing his opinions on a very vast subject.

If you asked each of our millions of members to express himself on this question you would have nearly as many individual answers. But grouping the answers together you would find common agreement to many basic objectives.

Labor does not ask all of its members to subscribe to a single program. Instead our program is shaped and reshaped according to the expressed will of our members through their representatives.

I assume you want a fairly broad view of our hopes and problems rather than a summary of resolutions adopted at labor conventions. I shall give you my opinions freely, but I want you to realize that I am expressing my own appraisal.

American Labor today wants to be recognized as the partner of capital in production, as the customer of capital in distribution, as the majority voice in a political democracy, and as the substantial center of our community life.

Those aims may seem revolutionary to some and as mere platitudes to others. Personally I regard them as healthy and constructive and American. I believe that they are truly conservative in the best interests of defending the capitalist system of economics, and the representative system of a political and social democracy.

Civilization Rests on Human Rights

Human rights are the basis of civilized life. Property rights are but one of the human rights of citizens. Before you can have a property right you must have a community which has established community rules of conduct. Property rights should not be antagonistic to human rights, but rather should be a consequence of the human rights of an indvidual member of the community.

Labor in America is becoming more and more aware of the necessity of reestablishing public recognition of this fundamental rule of society. Labor believes that the time has come when the self-appointed leaders of commercial, industrial, political and social life must be reminded that the influence they wield is valid only to the extent that it serves the public weal.

Menace of Totalitarian State

That view is conservative, not radical. The alternative is the totalitarian State which judges all things and all people by their usefulness to the mysterious and fictitious entity which is called the State. In the totalitarian State, so unwisely admired by some industrialists and demagogues, property rights eventually become non-existent

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ALTMEYER LAUDS SECURITY GAINS

Says Three Years' Experience Justifies Extending Benefits to More People; Nearly Four Hundred Million Dollars Paid to Jobless and Over a Billion to Needy Aged, Blind Persons, and Dependent Children.

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

Washington, D. C.—The hope that the United States Congress and the State legislatures will broaden their social security programs so as to include many more persons among those eligible for benefits was expressed in a year-end statement by Arthur J. Altmeyer, chairman of the Social Security Board, giving a report of progress under the Social Security Act.

He pointed out that over a billion dollars had been paid to 2,500,000 men, women and children under the Federal-State programs to aid the needy aged, blind, and dependent children, and that about $386,000,000 in unemployment compensation benefits had been paid to approximately 3,500,000 jobless under the Federal-State unemployment compensation program. In addition, more than 42,000,000 persons—nearly one-third of the population of the United States—had been registered as paying participants in the Federal old-age insurance plan.

"With the close of this year, social security as a national program in this country passes its third milestone," Mr. Altmeyer said. "The work of the Social Security Board during 1938, in collaboration with the other Federal and State agencies concerned, brings us up to the New Year with a substantial record of accomplishment.

All States Have Public Assistance Programs

"We have at least one Federal-State program of public assistance to the needy in every State and Territory of the United States. The Federal Gov-

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Organized Labor Has Important Part In Wage and Hour Act Administration

Workers Have Definite Function in Determining Wage Standards and Enforcing All Standards Set Up in the Law, Boris Shishkin, A. F. of L. Economist, Tells American Association For Labor Legislation Annual Meeting.

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

Detroit, Mich.—An exhaustive analysis of the history and underlying principles of the Wage and Hour Act passed by Congress last Summer and the present and future difficulties connected with the enforcement of the measure were presented to the annual meeting of the American Association for Labor Legislation here by Boris Shishkin, economist of the American Federation of Labor.

"When a future historian, with the customary breadth and precision of outline, charts the swirling tide of economic and political events of the past year, he may well be tempted to label 1938 as the year of great compromise," Mr. Shishkin said. "For he will rediscover such notable examples in the field of international affairs as the Munich Compromise (not to mention the American-British Trade Compromise or even the Lima Declaration) and in our domestic affairs the great legislative compromise sealed in the enactment of the Wage and Hour law.

"But in analyzing the Wage and Hour law as a piece of compromise legislation he will be forced to admit that it was a compromise unique in that it did not sacrifice a single basic principle essential to its purpose—to establish the initial floor for wages and a ceiling for hours. And I have no doubt he will conclude that although the Wage and Hour law is by no means a perfect example of legislative draftsmanship, it is a thoroughly workable law.

Administrative Policy Is Important

"As President Green has said, 'the new Act is only as good as its administration.' No one knows better than Administrator Andrews how staggering is the responsibility, how many and how complex are the difficulties, faced by the first builder of the wage and hour administration who must follow the generally sound, but often blurred and uncertain, blueprints handed him by Congress.

"The future student of American labor history will certainly be in a better position than any of us today to weigh in cold judgment the problems inherent in this epoch-making attempt at statutory regulation of minimum labor standards in a great modern democracy.

"Although today it may seem that 'it was a mighty while ago' that the Fair Labor Standards Act became law, the six short months which have elapsed from the date of its enactment and the two short months which have passed since the effective date of its minimum wage and maximum hour provisions do not give us the perspective necessary to review the problems of wage and hour administration in other than the most tentative way."

After examining the somewhat complex provisions of the measure and the administrative rules already issued by Administrator Elmer F. Andrews, Mr. Shishkin turned to the important part organized labor must take in effective enforcement of the law.

Labor Must Develop Standards and Policy

"Broadly speaking Labor's part in the administration of the Wage and Hour

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AFL DOCKMEN GAIN TWO NEW ORLEANS CONTRACTS

Thirty-Eight Hundred Men Covered by Agreements With New Orleans Steamship Association; Wage Raise of $1 Per Day Secured.

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

New Orleans, La.—Two agreements recently negotiated with the New Orleans Steamship Association by three locals of the International Longshoremen's Association, affiliated with the American Federation of Labor, brought the advantages of union wages, hours and work conditions to approximately 3,800 members of the locals.

The agreement negotiated with the Steamship Association by Local Union No. 1497 of the I. L. A. covered 300 clerks and checkers. The provisions include a wage increase of $1 per day, time and one-half for overtime, full seniority rights, and guaranteed half-time pay for waiting time.

Local Unions No. 1418 and 1419 of the I. L. A. negotiated an agreement with the Steamship Association covering 3,500 longshoremen. The terms of the contract provide union shop conditions, regulation of load limit, restricted hiring, guarantee of time and one-half for overtime, regulation of foremen, and other standard union shop conditions.

Officers of the three local unions were assisted by Leo B. Carter, A. F. of L. representative, and Emmett Townsend, I. L. A. representative, in negotiating the agreements.

Distillery, Rectifyers and Wine Workers National Council Formed

Delegates From Seventeen A. F. of L. Unions, With Membership of Over 8,000, Perfect Organization at Louisville Conference; Dillon Elected President.

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

The First National Conference of Distillery and Rectifying Workers, convened by William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, opened its sessions at the Kentucky Hotel, Louisville, Ky., on December 15 and adjourned December 17 at the conclusion of a three-day meeting.

The conference constituted the first authorized gathering embracing production workers in the distilling and rectifying industry in the history of the A. F. of L.

There were in attendance 43 duly accredited delegates representing 17 legally chartered local unions embracing a total membership of 8,254 organized distillery and rectifying workers in the United States.

Industrial Leaders Addressed Conference

Many prominent speakers identified as executives within the industry attended and addressed the sessions of the conference, among whom were: Dr. Wesley A Sturges, executive director, Distilled Spirits Institute; Owsley Brown, president, Distilled Spirits Institute; Robert Willkie, assistant to the vice-president, production department, Joseph E. Seagram & Sons, Inc.; Dr. E. M. Gherman, director, industrial relations, Joseph E. Seagram & Sons, Inc.; Henry Klein, Liquor Dealers Supply Company, Chicago, Ill.; Russell R. Brown, president, American Distilling Co.; Lewis G. Hines, director of organization, American Federation of Labor.

A number of other prominent and influential figures associated with the distilling and allied industries of the nation were also present.

The conference was called to order at ten o'clock A. M. December 15 in the main Ball Room of the Kentucky Hotel, Louisville, by Harry F. Petty, president, Louisville Central Labor Union.

Addresses of welcome were delivered by Acting Mayor Broaddus, Alexander Jeffrey, president, Kentucky State Federation of Labor, and R. F. Kirk, secretary, Louisville Building and Construction Trades Council.

By action of the conference a National Council was established to be known as the A[illegible] Federation of Distillery, Rectifyer[illegible] Wine Workers National Council.

Ten resolutions relating to industrial relations and the economic development of the industry generally were adopted.

Officials of Council Elected

General Organizer, F. J. Dillon, under the direction of President Green, presided over the sessions of the conference and was unanimously elected by the delegates to become the first na-

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2 MORE LOCALS FORMED BY AFL MINE WORKERS

Employes of Rumsey Coal Company, Moberly, Mo., and Economy Coal Company, Blair, Ill., Join Progressive Union Ranks.

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

Gillespie, Ill.—President Joe Ozanic of the International Union of Progressive Mine Workers of America, affiliated with the American Federation of Labor, announced the organization of two new local unions, one at Moberly, Missouri, and the other at Blair, Illinois, in Randolph County.

In commenting on the organization of these two locals, The Progressive Miner, the official journal of the Progressive Mine Workers, said:

"The Moberly local, which has jurisdiction over the Rumsey Coal Company mine, has been designated as Local Union No. 351, District 3, P. M. W. of A. It has purchased a complete set of local union supplies and is functioning as a legitimate unit of the Progressive Union in that section.

"Federation of Labor Organizers E. P. Theiss, of East St. Louis, Ill., and R. E. Lee, of Moberly, were responsible for organization of the local, the first to receive a P. M. W. of A. charter of affiliation in the coal fields of Missouri.

"The provisional officials of the United Mine Workers of America, which is dominated by John L. Lewis and affiliated with the Lewis-controlled Congress of Industrial Organization, and their agents had made repeated attempts to organize the mine workers at Moberly, but to no avail. Apparently, the miners desired to become

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Good Will Plea Voiced by Green

A. F. of L. President Urges Unity Among Workers, the End of Class Warfare, and Support of Cooperating Employers in Securing Prosperity for All.

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, joined with eight other leaders representing segments of American national life in expressing the fundamentals necessary for the settlement of the world's troubles on the basis of peace and good will in a Reconciliation Forum discussion of the question, "How Can We End Class Wars?" broadcast to the nation Christmas night under the auspices of the United States News, of Washington, D. C.

Speaking from his home in Coshocton, Ohio, Mr. Green delivered on behalf of the American Federation of Labor a message expressing a deep desire for the establishment of a spirit of unity among working men and women, cooperation with cooperating employers, and the hope that wars and the threat of war may speedily end and good will among nations be restored.

He assured employers that the American Federation of Labor has "no fundamental quarrel with industry," that the A. F. of L. believes that agreements between workers and employers "should be religiously observed by both sides," and that only by this reasonable procedure "can industrial peace and security be promoted."

TEXT OF GREEN'S ADDRESS

The text of Mr. Green's Christmas Message follows:

I wish to convey to all the people of our country the Christmas greetings of the American Federation of Labor and its five million members. As the spokesman for this great aggregation of decent, hard-working, loyal American citizens, it is my pleasant task to voice their good will toward the entire nation.

It is the earnest desire of the members of the American Federation of Labor to make their good-will effective, to apply the spirit of Christmas Day to every-day affairs in their relations with their fellow workers, with employers and with the public.

Aims Are Constructive

We sincerely believe that the aims and objectives of the American Federation of Labor are in the public interest. We have no destructive policies. All our efforts are concentrated on raising the standard of American living by improving the conditions of American workingmen and women.

Toward their fellow workers the members of the American Federation of Labor constantly maintain a spirit of good-will. In a large sense the Federa-

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N. Y. BUS DRIVERS UNION WINS PAY INCREASE PACT

$12.50 More Wages Per Week Put in Each Pay Envelope of 300 Union Members.

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

New York, N. Y.—A remarkable victory for higher living standards for workers was achieved in the award made by Frank Swacker, an arbitrator appointed by the New York State Board of Mediation, covering drivers employed by the Children's Bus System, of New York City, in which a wage increase of 62½ per cent was given to 300 members of Division No. 1181, Amalgamated Association of Street, Electric Railway and Motor Coach Employes, affiliated with the American Federation of Labor.

The arbitration of the dispute followed a strike called by the union when the management of the Bus System refused to live up to a union agreement under which it agreed to arbitrate wage controversies.

Mr. Swacker's award ordered that the wage rate of drivers employed by the Children's Bus System, which has a contract with the New York City Board of Education and serves about 20,000 school children, be increased from $20 to $32.50 for a five-day week.

The wage rate of bus drivers, when they are employed in the work of carrying children to and from school and in incidental work done during customary hours of service was fixed at $6.50 per day.

The new wage rate was said to be the highest ever secured for the type of work covered by the award.

AFL TEAMSTERS WIN PAY BOOST PACT IN CHICAGO

Eight Thousand Truck Drivers Add $1,500,000 Annually to Pay Envelopes.

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

Chicago, Ill.—Who says it doesn't pay to be organized in a strong union affiliated with the American Federation of Labor? Not the eight thousand truck drivers who belong to Local No. 705 of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, Chauffeurs, Stablemen and Helpers of America. No, sir! They have negotiated an agreement with the Cartage Exchange of Chicago and the Illinois Motor Truck Operators Association which increases their wages approximately $1,500,000 annually.

The agreement boosts wage rates $2 a week and limits the work week to 51 hours.

Weekly minimums range from $31 to $34 for motor cycle drivers and $34 to $43.50 for truck drivers.

Time worked before 7:45 a. m., when the work day begins, or after 5:15 p. m., when the work day ends, is considered overtime and is paid for at the rate of time and one-fourth. The agreement calls for double time for five legal holidays.

Some 200 motor truck operators were represented in the negotiations with the A. F. of L. union.

Members of the union negotiating committee were Fred Tiedt, president of Local No. 705 of the I. B. of T., James Walsh, secretary-treasurer, H. E. Wood, business agent, and Frank Kratky, business agent. The Cartage Exchange was represented by Howard Willet, Sr., William C. Winkler and John Broderick; the Illinois Motor Truck Operators' Association by J. L. Keeshen, D. F. McKeown and William Fullerton.

GARMENT WORKERS VOTE FOR A. F. OF L. UNION

Birmingham, Ala. (AFLWNS).—Local Union No. 277, United Garment Workers of America, affiliated with the American Federation of Labor, has been recognized as exclusive bargaining agency by the Johnson Manufacturing Company.

This result was achieved as the result of an election held under the direction of the State Labor Department, in which the employes rolled up a majority for the A. F. of L. affiliate. The election followed a strike lasting for several days.

S. E. Roper of the American Federation of Labor and International Representative Reynolds of the United Garment Workers assisted the local union during the controversy.

171 MEMPHIS PACTS WON BY BUTCHER WORKERS

Eighty-One Chain Stores Included in Big List of Union Shops.

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

Memphis, Tenn.—The Memphis Local of the Amalgamated Meat Cutters and Butcher Workmen of North America, affiliated with the American Federation of Labor, recently negotiated agreements with ten independent stores which had not hitherto enjoyed the advantages of the union shop, according to an announcement by W. W. Rowland, business agent of the local.

These ten agreements are in addition to contracts with 68 Kroger stores and 13 Liberty stores. All told, the Amalgamated now has 171 agreements in Memphis. International Representative C. C. Peek, said that this large number of agreements makes Memphis the best organized city in the South so far as the Amalgamated Meat Cutters and Butcher Workmen is concerned.

A. AND P. STORES SIGN AFL BAKERY UNION PACT

Thousands of Employes in Six Cities Are Now Covered by Agreements With Big Chain Store.

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

Chicago, Ill.—Joseph Schmidt, secretary of the Bakery and Confectionery Workers International Union of America, affiliated with the American Federation of Labor, announced the negotiation of agreements with the top executives of the Great Atlantic and Pacific Tea Company.

About 3,000 employes of the A. and P. stores in Kansas City, Milwaukee, St. Louis, Cincinnati, Detroit and New Orleans are now working under union agreements, Mr. Schmidt said.

Unions in Atlanta Register Progress

Atlanta, Ga.—Two important victories recently gained by A. F. of L. unions in Atlanta have given added zest to labor enthusiasm in this large Southern city.

Representatives of Local Union No. 42 of the Bakery and Confectionery Workers International Union of America and Lodge No. 1, of the International Association of Machinists negotiated an agreement with the Atlanta plant of the National Biscuit Company. The contract, which runs for one year, recognizes the local unions as the exclusive bargaining agencies for the workers involved, and provides the 8-hour day and 40-hour week with time and one-half for overtime.

In addition, the company agrees to furnish and launder all uniforms. Heretofore the workers paid for their uniforms.

Another important recent achievement was the settlement of the strike at the Kessler stores, called nearly a year and a half ago by the Atlanta local of the Retail Clerks International Protective Association. Final adjustment of the controversy was announced by State Labor Commissioner Ben T. Huiet, who spent several weeks negotiating the settlement, which was reported to be satisfactory to both the union and the company.

TEXTILE WORKERS VOTE FOR A. F. OF L. UNION

Ballots of Atlantic Mills Employes Overwhelmingly Defeat Lewis's C. I. O. Unit.

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

Providence, R. I.—The employes of the Atlantic Mills big plant at Olneyville cast 994 votes for the Providence and Woonasquatucket Woolen and Worsted District Council, affiliated with the American Federation of Labor, as their collective bargaining agency, and only 535 votes for the Textile Workers Organizing Committee, affiliated with the C. I. O.

The election, conducted by the National Labor Relations Board and requested by the T. W. O. C. was publicized by the C. I. O. outfit as the first test of strength with the recently chartered textile workers affiliate of the American Federation of Labor. The test resulted in a definite, positive and overwhelming defeat for the C. I. O. and an equally definite, positive and overwhelming victory for the American Federation of Labor.

The defeat was the second blow suffered recently by the T. W. O. C. On November 30 the Superior Court decided that the contract held by the T. W. O. C. taking over the United Textile Workers of America was invalid, and ordered the T. W. O. C. to make an accounting of all the dues and other moneys collected from the locals of the United Textile Workers and turn such funds over to the court.

Radio Telegraphers Choose A. F. L. Union

New York, N. Y. (AFLWNS).—The Marine Division of the Commercial Telegraphers Union, affiliated with the American Federation of Labor, has been certified by the National Labor Relations Board as the sole collective bargaining agency for radio telegraphers employed by Seas Shipping Company, Inc., of New York City, upon vessels of its Robin Line, operated between the East Coast of the United States and African ports.

The action of the Board was based upon evidence presented at a hearing held in New York on October 24, 1938. Four radio telegraphers are employed by the company.

Lumber Company Clerks Vote for A. F. L. Union

Westwood, Calif. (AFLWNS).—Office Employes Union No. 21697, affiliated with the American Federation of Labor, has been certified by the National Labor Relations Board as having been designated by a majority of the clerical and sales force of the Red River Lumber Company of Westwood, as their representative.

E. VANDERVELDE, BELGIAN LABOR LEADER, IS DEAD

Former Head of Second International, Seventy-Two Years Old, Passes Away at Brussels; Was Marxian Socialist for 52 Years; Inveterate Foe of Bolshevism and Fascism.

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

Emile Vandervelde, veteran leader of the Belgian Labor Party and sympathetic collaborator with the Belgian organized labor movement, died in Brussels, Belgium, on December 27 after a severe heart attack. He was seventy-two years of age.

Mr. Vandervelde did not evolve from the environment of the "horny-handed sons and daughters of toil," but from earliest youth he became their spokesman, both in the political and economic field, and was responsible for the enactment of many legislative measures improving the living conditions of the masses.

Espoused Marxism Socialism

A wealthy and cultured intellectual who came from a distinguished family, Mr. Vandervelde became convinced that Marxian Socialism was the only method by which the workers could be "emancipated" from the "slavery" which it was alleged the capitalist system of production imposed upon them.

Born in 1866, Mr. Vandervelde joined the Belgian Labor Party after graduating from the University of Brussels. His Parliamentary career began in 1894, when he became the Labor Party deputy from Charleroi. Through his

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MARKET WORKERS GAIN CLOSED SHOP CONTRACT

Strike of A. F. of L. Union in Buffalo Is Settled by Agreement Which Includes Seniority and Wage Compromise.

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

Buffalo, N. Y.—The strike called here by Local No. 558, Warehouse and Produce Workers Union, a branch of the A. F. of L. International Brotherhood of Teamsters, Chauffeurs, Stablemen and Helpers of America, was settled when the local voted to accept an agreement drawn up at a conference of their representatives and the Food Industry of Western New York, the employers organization.

The union declared the strike after a breakdown of negotiations over the union demands for pay increases to compensate for the reduction of the work week from forty-eight hours to forty-four hours under the Federal Fair Labor Standards Act.

The employers insisted that the hourly rate under the forty-four hour week should be the same as under the forty-eight hour week. This edict took four hours wages out of the pay envelopes of the workers, and they struck against the wage cut.

The strike, participated in by 600 members of the union, practically paralyzed deliveries of food in this city of 600,000 population. Union officials issued an order exempting deliveries of food to hospitals and charitable institutions from strike action.

Edward F. Murphy, of Cleveland, vice president of the Teamsters Brotherhood, said the agreement settling the strike called for the closed shop, seniority rights and a compromise on wage differences to be worked out later.

WILMINGTON STRIKING TRUCK DRIVERS SHOT

Transporter of Strike-Breakers For Oil Company Jailed on Charge of Seriously Wounding Two Members of Truck Drivers Union.

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

Wilmington, N. C.—The dangers which confront strikers when anti-union companies resort to imported strike-breakers to destroy organized labor is well illustrated by the fact that J. T. Moss and Philip Morgan, members of Truck Drivers Local No. 391, of Wilmington, whose members have been on strike against the Southern Oil Transportation Co. since Oct. 30, were seriously wounded by a bullet which passed through both of their bodies while they were standing between the two tents across the street from the company headquarters, the tents having served as shelter for the pickets since the strike was declared.

Union officials declare that H. L. Brinson of High Point, N. C., who is president and manager of the oil concern, consigned the union to the reported residence of His Satanic Majesty when the men asked for a conference regarding labor conditions.

The company imported strike-breakers. They were brought to Wilmington from South Carolina by a man named Johnson, who hauled them to the plant and from the plant to their boarding houses. For a time, union men say, Johnson used Brinson's private automobile to transport the strike-breakers.

On the night of the shooting several strikers were standing between the two tents. An automobile sped by. A high-powered rifle barrel protruded from the window. The trigger was pulled. The shot went into the group of strikers, and Mr. Moss and Mr. Morgan fell to the ground, the rifle bullet having pierced the bodies of both men.

The man Johnson was arrested, jailed, and charged with the shooting.

A wife and seven children are dependent upon Mr. Moss for a living. Mr. Morgan has a wife and one child.

In view of the fact that the union is not a year old, and consequently cannot draw strike benefits from its international organization, the Central Labor Union of Wilmington and all the affiliated unions have united in a determined effort to see that the two wounded men have proper hospital care and that their families do not suffer.

Detroit Bowling Alley Workers Win Pay Boost

Detroit, Mich. (AFLWNS).—Local No. 79 of Building Service Employes International Union, affiliated with the American Federation of Labor, announced the negotiation of an agreement with the Bowling Alley Proprietors of Detroit covering all pinsetters, alleymen, porters, janitors, janitresses, billard room attendants, check room attendants and elevator operators.

The union was represented by Ray Carrol, international representative. Frank Martel, president of the Detroit and Wayne County Federation of Labor, rendered valuable assistance in finalizing the contract.

The agreement, which provides for the closed shop, increased wages and improved work conditions, will be in effect until July 1, 1939, when two representatives of the Bowling Alley Proprietors and two representatives of the union will meet and add a fifth member chosen from the judges of the Wayne County Circuit Court to negotiate a further contract.

JAMES SEXTON, BRITISH LABOR LEADER, IS DEAD

Former Head of Dockers Union, Eighty-Two Years Old, Succumbs at Liverpool; Served Thirteen Years in Parliament; Was Knighted; Author of Poems, a Play and an Autobiography.

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

Sir James Sexton, British labor leader over a long period, died at his home in Liverpool, England, on December 27. He was eighty-two years old.

Sir James is credited with many outstanding achievements in the struggle to make better living conditions for British workers. The son of emigrants who fled to England from Ireland's great famine, he was born in the slums of Newcastle in 1856. At eight years of age he worked half-time in glass works for two shillings six pence a week, about a dime a day. When he was thirteen he stowed away on a sailing ship and was accepted as one of the crew. On arrival at San Francisco he was shanghaied on an American ship and passed several years as a sailor. He was a member of the crew that made a perilous journey from Egypt to Britain with the huge Cleopatra's Needle in tow.

Founded Dock Workers Union

When he was twenty-three, Sir James settled in Liverpool and went to work on the docks. He helped to found the National Union of Dock Laborers in 1890, becoming general secretary in 1890 and serving in the capacity for more than forty years. He was prominent with Havelock Wilson and Tom Mann in the seamen's and dockers' big strike in 1911, culminating in "Bloody Sunday."

As a result of his daily urgings, T. P. O'Connor pressed the House of Commons reforms in compensation acts

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JACKSONVILLE WORKERS FORM NEW AFL UNIONS

Jacksonville, Fla. (AFLWNS).—The Duval County Local of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employes, recently organized here, reports a membership of over one hundred. The organization work was directed by Albert W. Gossett, Southern representative of the A. F. S. C. M. E., assisted by local labor officials.

The Bakery and Confectionery Workers International Union of America, affiliated with the American Federation of Labor, scored another advance for unionism in the establishment here of Local Union No. 482 of that organization. The local is affiliated with the Central Labor Union and the State Federation of Labor. Leo H. Hill, president of the Central Labor Union, T. J. Kelly, vice president of the State Federation of Labor, and other union officials assisted in forming the new local.

Labor Demands Real Partnership With Capital in Production, Watt Declares

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because human rights are considered to be dependent upon the convenience of the State.

Property Rights Must Be Subordinated

Labor realizes that the exalting of property rights under present economic conditions leads inevitably to the destruction of human rights and thereby the self-destruction of property rights. Labor insists that the property rights of the individual must be sustained by protecting and elevating the human rights of every individual member of the community. We of labor declare that property rights were created as a means toward the "life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness" for which our people maintain the agency of civil government.

Labor, therefore, will inevitably work toward a subordination of property rights so that those rights may serve and not obstruct the needs of mankind.

The State Exists for the People

Labor insists that the State and all its machinery exist for man and not vice versa. To hold any other view is to degrade mankind and to dissipate the accomplishments of civilization.

The totalitarian State is the product of desperation of a deluded people who have failed in time to insist that human rights are superior to the privilege of man-created agencies.

This may seem a far-fetched theory to advance in a discussion of "Labor's Aims and Responsibilities," but it is both the aim and responsibility of every worker, however vague or unconscious may be his individual recognition of the challenge of modern society.

And it must equally be the responsibility of capital and management. Your function exists only within the realm of service to mankind.

It is Labor's first aim and responsibility to defend and promote the human rights of man to enjoy liberty of conscience, political, economic and social freedom, and the privilege of personal property rights.

Real Partnership With Capital Sought

I have already said that American labor wants to be recognized as the partner of capital in production. For many years polite platitudes have been voiced about the partnership of capital and labor. Such talk is not particularly helpful because the industrialists refer to a partnership in which labor has a junior non-voting stock on which dividends are paid very seldom and only when unavoidable.

As I see it, capital is invested in real estate, machinery and materials. The costs of interest, maintenance and depreciation are charged against this investment. Management is paid what seems to us very substantial amounts for handling this investment in a way which will bring profits to the owners.

Labor objects to being figured in just as an operating cost which must be squeezed down as low as possible.

Workers Victimized by Machinery

We know from bitter experiences that new machinery, new processes, together with the stretch-out, speed-up, and other so-called efficiency methods have sharply reduced the labor cost per unit of production.

Such accomplishments are fine, in a short-sighted view, for capital and of course are a fruitful basis for yearly bonuses to management. But it is tough for labor as a wage earner and it is tough for industry so far as sales to wage earners are concerned.

If efficiencies were fully passed along to the consumer, the real wages to labor would be increased (I should think), but I know that such results are rarely experienced.

Higher Wages Demanded

So Labor's aim is to win higher wages. We believe that the machine should be a source of profit to the worker as well as to the owner. Higher wages per unit of production seem to us essential.

At the same time we maintain that the machine-created "buyers' market" for labor is economically and socially harmful. We say that in a situation where productive capacity greatly exceeds consumers' purchasing power, we must increase purchasing power by putting more men to work at shorter hours.

Shorter Hours Are Necessary

Take the telephone company for example. When they invest a few millions in dial equipment it means fewer jobs for people. Our view is that there should be as many jobs but for shorter hours. The fact that the costs of machine installations are at present financed by savings in labor costs seems to us an anti-social result.

In other words, we believe that capital must not be allowed to write labor off the books. If the costs of a machine must be paid even if it is idle or if it is replaced, the property rights of the owner in his financial investment must no longer be superior to the human rights of the worker to the property value of his labor.

We believe that the worker must be given conditions of work which will not impair his health or safety. We insist that any necessary protective devices, sanitation, suitable ventilation, light, heat, and so forth must be given the worker just as carefully as costly machinery is installed, maintained and insured against accident.

Labor's Legislative Policy

We want these objectives, I have said. You may ask, how do we propose to get them?

American labor, like British or Swedish workers, aim to get those rights by joining with strong unions of their own choice and by collective bargaining.

We prefer not to ask for the shorter work week and higher wages by government action. Like our British brothers, government action has seemed necessary only where sufficient organization is lacking. Thus the reason for the so-called interference of government in industry is largely traceable to the fact that industry in the past has so substantially blocked unionization. In other words, industry has forced popular demand for government intervention because it has prevented adequate expression of the wishes and needs of its workers.

So despite the strong complaints of the American Federation of Labor to the administrative policies and practices of the National Labor Relations Board, the labor movement agrees that the Wagner Act principles must be maintained as the foundation for the adequate and effective organization of workers.

Unless management wishes to accomplish its own suicide by seeking refuge in the snare of Fascism, it must sooner or later recognize that its best interests demand the strongest possible labor movement.

Industry's Methods Against Labor Unions Condemned

The aim of labor is to organize the great majority of all wage earners into a united and vigorous organization through units appropriate for the best representation of the workers in the individual craft or industry.

Such an organization will involve heavy responsibilities, of course, but those responsibilities must be the moral discipline of self-control. Just as long as industry combats unionism by guns, gas, clubs, stooges, spies, company paid sheriffs, vigilantes or unjust injunctions, just that long will labor unions be headed by militant organizers. The struggle for survival breeds the fighting union leader rather than the patient negotiator or competent administrator.

Fallacy of Union Incorporation

My message to management on the subject of labor union responsibility is this: You can have discipline and responsibility within labor unions as soon as you stop waging war against labor unions and give your workers a chance to develop their own patterns of union discipline and responsibility.

But the idea of incorporation is just the child of hostile and ignorant scheming. It is just the ballyhoo of your own vicious propaganda. Registration of labor unions in Britain infers a privilege of tax exemption and that's about all it does.

Industrial Peace by Legislation Is Impracticable

The study of British and Swedish labor union practices in which I was privileged to participate as a member of President Roosevelt's Commission has convinced me that we cannot import a ready-made formula to legislate industrial peace. What we can do is to take advantage of what they have learned and try to reach our destination without suffering all the troubles and mistakes which they experienced.

The responsibility for attaining harmony in labor relations rests with management and the banker-broker boards of self-perpetuating directors who control management policies. The responsibility rests with you gentlemen, not with labor. Your short-sighted opposition to unionism has enriched detective agencies, trouble making labor spies, and the Pearl Bergoffs of the world; and your stockholders and employes have suffered in consequence.

Baneful Effects of Wage Cuts to Finance Price Wars

You have chosen price competition based on chiselling down labor costs whereas you could have maintained the interests of your stockholders better by improving the conditions and purchasing power of your workers.

We believe competitive industry should be forced to refrain from competition financed by wage cuts. Industry meets substantially the same interest rates on money used in its business. Industry must be prepared to pay labor costs on comparatively equal terms.

American labor does not seek this objective by legislation, except on certain basic minima by which the marginal or chiselling fringe are controlled. We maintain instead that nation-wide organization of labor will provide the basic standards of wages, hours and conditions upon which all employers in a given industry will operate.

American labor insists that wage costs and conditions must be removed from the field of competition and that this reform must be achieved by the effective organization of all the workers in trade or industry.

Importance of Labor As Consumers

That discussion naturally raises the next objective which I mentioned at the beginning. As partner of capital in production, Labor must be recognized as the major customer of capital in the distribution of goods produced by the partnership.

The wages paid to labor automatically become the purchasing power of the multitude. A wage cut automatically shrinks industry's markets, and thereby reduces the opportunity for capital and labor to operate profitably. Furthermore, the temporary advantage gained by one competitor through a wage cut provokes other competitors to imitate the example. As a result the original competitive relationships are restored and the one accomplishment is to make goods a little cheaper and a little less accessible to the working man consumer.

Management Must End Trade Slumps

So the working men and women of America who have been described as the partners of capital have concluded that the partnership must become much more thoughtful of its customers. Organized Labor demands that the traditional splurge and slump habits of American trade and industry must be reformed and reformed quickly and thoroughly.

Labor points to the tragic shortsightedness of our financial and industrial leaders in the past who have tolerated a condition in which one-third of the nation are indeed "ill housed, ill fed and ill clothed" because they permit average family incomes of only $455 a year.

Unions Include Mass Production Workers

May I call your attention to the fact that organized labor today is by no means restricted to the skilled craftsmen. The most impressive accomplishment of Labor in the past three or four years has been the organization of an increasing number of poorer paid workers.

For many years only the so-called aristocracy of labor could be organized because their skill prevented easy substitution of scabs. The legal right to organization for collective bargaining may have existed but the mass industry workers knew that union membership was rewarded by dismissal and probable blacklisting. With the Wagner Act, the mass industries can no longer lock their gates against labor unions. The workers of the large scale industry are being organized.

That is why labor anticipates that capital will review its wage and labor policies. The aim of labor is to have sufficient purchasing power among the multitudes so that the wheels of industry may run on an orderly year round basis.

The splurge and slump policy must be succeeded by a wage policy for consumer maintenance of markets.

Labor will insist that wages and employment must be sustained by industry as producer and distributor or else that the taxing power of government be used to provide purchasing power to those who cannot find work at decent wages.

To me that objective is a conservative approach to solving economic, social and political problems of basic importance.

Labor in Politics

That objective involves politics and properly so. Labor people are the majority group in our political democracy and gradually labor is becoming conscious that its interests are best served by united political action.

Labor has already demonstrated that its traditional policy of "support our friends and defeat our enemies" can bear fruit when the issues are made clear. I predict that Labor will increasingly recognize that its interests can be served only by conscientious liberals.

American Labor prefers not to undertake any third party movement, but it is obvious that such a movement may gain headway if the major parties give only a "tweedledum-tweedledee" choice.

Back home in Massachusetts, I know that our people have been finding it increasingly unsatisfactory to have to choose which of the two or three candidates is the lesser evil.

Management exerts a substantial influence in politics. I ask you gentlemen to consider the necessity of affording an honest choice of clear cut programs and candidates. The American worker will refuse to accept subterfuge indefinitely.

Importance of Labor in Community Life

Labor, after all, is a substantial center of our community life. It is high time that the public as a whole recognized it to be a fact.

Those who attempt, except during political campaigns, to make it appear that Labor is only a small edge in the community circle are hurting themselves. Those who denounce labor as a selfish minority are creating ill will in the community and are making class-conscious the group which is the majority.

Organized Labor may not yet count within its rank all who labor, but organized workers voice the hopes and needs and program of its unorganized brothers and sisters. Let none of you mistake that fact.

Once up a time you could brand the labor leader as an agitator and turn many workers against him. You cannot do so today except in rare cases and by great effort.

Militia Used in Strikes

I am an American Federation of Labor man. I am a member of a skilled craft and have been a union member for more than twenty-five years. I have seen the militia drive our people along the streets. I have seen scores of union leaders wrongfully denounced as agitators, radicals and communists. I have seen the community misled by propaganda into action against its own best interests. I have seen our workers exploited during good years and left hungry during slumps.

Out of this experience shared by millions of others like me has come a recognition of the unity of labor's purposes. The rank and file of American labor may differ as to the type of union they prefer and may disagree as to the leadership to be trusted but they have come to recognize that labor stands together on public issues.

Influence of Management in Determining Labor Leadership

In closing, I should apologize for my excursion into subjects outside of the technical scope of industrial management. I did so deliberately, however, because I want to emphasize that you cannot determine your labor policies by slide-rule.

Labor is but a group term for working people. They are people like yourselves with the same desires to earn a decent living for their families in self-respecting circumstances at jobs which they can enjoy. They may not be as sophisticated as executives usually are, and especially in terms of leadership our officers may appear crude in their inability to use fifty cent words to express their grievances and their programs. But you can solve our community problems only by viewing labor as a mass movement of individuals with the same sort of hopes and feelings and needs as yourselves.

Management can determine the sort of leadership which labor provides because you determine whether we must plead our cause by force or by reason. Give us conference table discussion of honest issues and you will get that type of leadership. If you give us the Mohawk Valley formula, you will get militant unions with fighting leaders. If you give guns and gas to meet our grievances you will get the sit-down strike and the flying squadrons.

You cannot breed respect and confidence by the stool pigeon and labor spy. Every union which you smash by force and deceit will be succeeded by a tougher, harder union ready to match itself against your tactics.

But, gentlemen, I believe management has learned much by past mistakes. When I was told that Mr. Ching was to be the chairman of this session, I asked the leader of a Rubber Workers' Union for some information about him. I mention this not for flattery, but as an example of progress. He said without hesitation that Mr. Ching is a fine fellow, in whom they have confidence and that he wished the industry had more Mr. Ching's.

Necessary Elements for Labor-Industry Partnership

Yes, management has progressed and labor has kept step. Unions in America will continue to advance if you treat us with respect and confidence. Respect for contracts, avoidance of strikes, co-operation in meeting new problems, all of these are typical of the older unions which have been fortunate enough to have fought their battles in the past and won a status of partnership.

I urge you to hasten the transition in other fields of industry. Mr. Ford once sought to get the boys out of the trenches before Christmas. The leaders of industry can get labor unions out of the trenches and into a state of mutually respectful partnership if you will come half way and prove your good faith. But labor must stay in the trenches as long as management seeks to exploit and abuse its workers, to deprive its customers of purchasing power and to ignore its community responsibility.

And after many long conferences with the members of the International Labor Organization at Geneva, I say with utter conviction that management's interest in the face of the world problems of today should be parallel with Labor's.

With the menace of fascistic brutality of the conscienceless State seeking to destroy the democratic institutions of mankind, it is the duty of all decent people to find a basis for friendly agreement for real co-operation towards a happier and healthier community.

Civilization advances only by progress and freedom of the intellect and conscience of all the people whether they sit in the executive's arm chair or sweat in the foundry. And in America we all want to go forward and are glad to go forward together!

Auburndale Union Wins Packing Firm Contract

Auburndale, Fla. (AFLWNS).—Members of A. F. of L. Union No. 21216 expressed themselves as greatly pleased with the terms of the agreement negotiated with the Adams Packing Company here. Paul J. Aymon, of the Atlanta Office of the American Federation of Labor, assisted union officials in finalizing the contract.

AFL CENTRAL LABOR UNION FORMED AT WINNFIELD, LA.

Winnfield, La. (AFLWNS).—Nine locals affiliated with American Federation of Labor national and international unions have formed a Central Labor Union here and applied for a charter. E. H. Williams, president of the Louisiana State Federation of Labor, assisted the local unions in establishing the central body.

ALTMEYER LAUDS SECURITY GAINS

(Continued from Page 1)

ernment, by grants of money, helps the participating States to provide cash payments monthly to needy old people, the needy blind, and for dependent children. All the States are taking part in the program for needy old people. Forty-two States are taking part in the program for the needy blind, and the same number in that for dependent children.

"All told, about 2½ million men, women, and children are being directly aided through these monthly cash allowances, from Federal, State, and local funds. A total, from all these sources, of one billion dollars has been paid to beneficiaries under these assistance programs since the Social Security Act went into operation.

"We now have 31 States paying unemployment insurance benefits. In all the remaining States but two, benefits will be payable in January, and after next July all the States will have reached this stage of full operation. Up to November 30, 1938, 2½ million unemployed workers in 29 States had received benefits amounting to about $365,000,000.

Millions Qualify for Old-Age Pensions

"We have more than 42 million old-age insurance accounts on our books—representing an average gain of nearly half a million a month during 1938. Every worker covered by the old-age insurance plan is now building up his rights to a regular monthly retirement benefit. Meanwhile, we are paying lump-sum claims at the rate of more than 15,000 a month to insured workers who have reached 65 years of age, and to the families of those who have died—claims amounting so far to about 11 million dollars.

Extension of Benefits Visioned

"The New Year will bring, no doubt, changes in the Social Security Act and in the State laws which tie into the act. This, of course, is as it should be, for we now have experience upon which we can build in extending and strengthening these laws.

"With our hopes for the broadening of the social security programs—hopes which depend, of course, upon the action of Congress and the State legislatures which are soon to convene—we feel that both the need for and the effectiveness of the Social Security Act have already been demonstrated beyond question. In terms of people served and future want forestalled, its record to date is one of real and enduring progress."

E. VANDERVELDE, BELGIAN LABOR LEADER, IS DEAD

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long career he served in many Cabinets, acting as Minister of State in 1914, Minister of Justice in 1918, Foreign Minister in 1926, and Minister of Hygiene in the Van Zeeland Cabinet, from which he resigned in 1937 because it failed to support the elected "Loyalist" Government of Spain against the "Insurgents" headed by General Franco.

Opposed Bolshevist-Communist "Dictatorships of the Proletariat"

A believer in the fundamental principles of Marxian Socialism, Mr. Vandervelde joined with Karl Kautsky, of Germany and Ramsay MacDonald of England in denouncing the "dictator-Bolshevist-Communist regime in Russia following the 1917 revolution, as not connected in the remotest degree with the philosophy of Marx. Vandervelde claimed that the change from capitalism to socialism should be brought about by parliamentary action in which all adults could express their views under universal suffrage.

Attacked Fascism

Alarmed at the Fascist danger in the strength of his country's Rexists (who were rising in the beginning of 1936), M. Vandervelde issued a warning lest Belgium suffer Austria's fate. In several public utterances he attacked Premier Mussolini personally and the Fascist regime in general. As a consequence of this attitude, Italy recalled her envoy to Brussels in 1927.

Praised American Institutions

When the World War broke out in 1914 with the invasion of Belgium by the German troops, Mr. Vandervelde with his first wife, Mme. Lalla Vandervelde, an English woman, came to the United States and conducted a campaign for the relief of their countrymen who were being ground down under the German military dictatorship. They raised $300,000 during a short lecture tour.

Mr. Vandervelde was a passionate believer in the validity of American institutions. In 1927 he said:

"Europe is decadent and probably will collapse. But I am not worried. There never has been a complete collapse of civilization. When Rome fell, the torch was held high by Constantine and the Arabs. It is the United States that will maintain the level of civilization in the epoch now beginning."

2 MORE LOCALS FORMED BY AFL MINE WORKERS

(Continued from Page 1)

members of a democratic union which is affiliated with an organization that preaches and practices American unionism."

Welcomed by Ozanic

In welcoming the new members into the ranks of the Progressive Mine Workers of America, President Ozanic said:

"On behalf of the officers and members of the Progressive Mine Workers of America, I cordially welcome into our ranks you mine workers of Moberly and Blair.

"We are pleased that you have considered our organization democratic enough to warrant your membership in it, and we assure you that you will be at all times accorded the fullest measure of democracy, freedom and rank and file control.

"Your problems are our problems and wherever your interests and welfare become involved the International Union, Progressive Mine Workers of America, stands at all times ready to protect and guide you with all the power and influence we possess."

Employes of Brooklyn Firm Choose A. F. of L.

Brooklyn, N. Y. (AFLWNS).—The American Federation of Labor Organization Council of 65 Fulton Street, Brooklyn, has been certified by the New York State Labor Relations Board as the collective bargaining agent for persons employed in the delivery, maintenance, store service, warehousing, receiving and checking departments of Frederick Loeser & Company of Brooklyn.

Organized Labor Has Important Part In Wage and Hour Act Administration

(Continued from Page 1)

Law is divided into two distinct functions," he said.

"One consists in the development of standards and formulation of policy in connection with all discretionary administrative actions.

"In performing this essentially representative function labor organizations must be equipped with facts which would enable them to furnish the Administrator and the industry committees with the true picture of the actual conditions surrounding each problem and of the fundamental interests of the workers in each situation.

"The second and equally important function of organized labor is to undertake its full share of responsibility in the enforcement of the established standards.

"President Green has said: 'Wage earners of America must remember that the Fair Labor Standards Act is their Act. They must take part in the determination of minimum wage standards and in the enforcement of all standards established by this law. This they can do through union representation. If workers fail to take part in its development, the Act can be easily turned into oppressive regulation by arbitrary government fiat. But if the workers, through nation-wide union representation, will voice their needs and desires, this Act will become a powerful tool of true industrial democracy with which Labor will forge a higher standard of work and a better standard of living.'

"The real responsibility for the enforcement of the Act rests with organized labor. This is especially true during the initial period of the administration of the law.

"With a handful of enforcement agents and practically no appropriation to carry on the work, the Wage and Hour Division would have been in no position to police the minimum standards had it not been for the prompt and effective action on the part of unions throughout the country in developing enforcement machinery to safe-guard the standards of the Act.

A. F. of L. Wage and Hour Committees Assist Administration

"There are today 580 local wage and hour committees formed by the American Federation of Labor in all parts of the country whose task is to disseminate information among unorganized as well as organized workers regarding the provisions of the Act, regulations made under it and their operation and enforcement.

"Explanatory bulletins have been prepared by our central office in Washington dealing with the major problems of enforcement arising under the Act and distributed to the local wage and hour committees for use in each community.

"Complaint and affidavit forms for orderly and uniform reporting of facts in cases of violations have also been made available to local organizations.

"This activity represents not only self-protection by the workers of their labor standards in a very real sense but it also establishes a foundation upon which labor can build through organization and collective bargaining labor standards higher than the minimum standards.

"Labor looks upon the Fair Labor Standards Act as a legal device designed to eliminate substandard labor conditions, not as a matter of social mercy but as a matter of social right. Upon this principle the entire administration of the law must be based.

"The Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 must be regarded not so much as legislation which safeguards the welfare of substandard groups but more as legislation which establishes economic equity. When so viewed the Act can, and I am sure, will become a powerful instrument of effective cooperation of labor, management and the public in molding a firm foundation for a higher standard of living for the American people."

Distillery, Rectifyers and Wine Workers National Council Formed

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tional president of the newly established Council.

A national executive committee of 5 was set up, composed of the following: George J. Oneto, New York City; Raymond Blair, Peoria, Ill.; O. B. Crouch, Baltimore, Md.; John A. McKinney, St. Louis, Mo.; Sol Cilento, New York City.

James Dever, Chicago, Ill., was chosen to serve as national secretary-treasurer.

A five-cents per month per member per capita tax was ordered levied upon the membership of each affiliated local union effective as of April 1, 1939, for the purpose of assisting in financing the activities of the newly established National Council.

New York City was the unanimous choice of the delegates for the 1939 conference city.

It is planned to edit and publish the verbatim proceedings of this important and historic conference. It is the plan of President Dillon to give these proceedings the widest possible circulation not only among workers but executives within the industry as well.

At the conclusion of the conference meeting it was announced by Mr. Dillon that a meeting of the newly elected national officers would be convened in the near future for the purpose of putting into operation the policies and principles adopted by the conference and to institute a vigorous organizing committee within the industry.

GEORGIA LABOR WANTS UNION MEN REINSTATED

Two Members of State Employes Federation Were Dismissed From State Labor Department Without Just Cause, Is Charge.

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

Atlanta, Ga.—Two members of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employes, T. C. Helbrueck of Atlanta, and Mrs. Calvin Parker, of Waycross, were dismissed from the staff of the State Labor Department for political reasons, the executive board of the Georgia State Federation of Labor charged in a statement issued here.

The board requested Commissioner of Labor Hulet to reinstate the union members.

MEXICO TO INDEMNIFY AMERICAN LANDOWNERS

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

The action of the Mexican Senate in ratifying the recent agreement between Mexico and the United States regarding payment of indemnity to American owners of Mexican expropriated for distribution among the landless for utilization in farming has mollified an acute controversial question between the governments of the two countries.

According to the pact, originally signed by President Cardenas for Mexico and Secretary of State Cordell Hull for the United States, the agreement deals exclusively with the amount of the American claims and the time and method of payment, but does not involve the principle of further expropriation of large landed estates owned by both Mexicans and foreigners to be divided into small tracts for agricultural purposes.

In discussing the pact, President Cardenas said new Mexican budget for payments to both Mexicans and aliens for land seized.

Hospital Charges Cut For Insured Workers

New York, N. Y. (AFLWNS).—A long dispute between the voluntary hospitals of New York City and the workmen's compensation insurance companies concerning the rates which hospitals shall be paid for the care of injured and sick workers covered by insurance was settled by a compromise rate, Miss Frieda S. Miller, State Industrial Commissioner, and Louis H. Pink, State Insurance Superintendent, announced.

The Compensation Insurance Rating Board demanded that the Association of Voluntary Hospitals cut its daily rate from the present $5.50 to $4.50, but the hospitals refused. In addition to their refusal the hospitals charge the insurance companies with protesting bills for hospital care at every opportunity and delaying payments by court actions and other maneuvers.

Following a number of conferences by arbitrators a preliminary agreement was reached which provides a standard rate of $6.25 for routine cases, with a uniform schedule of fees for special medical services.

SOVIET MARRIAGES BOOM

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

Statistics made public by the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics reveal an increase of 12.1 per cent in registered marriages in the first half of 1938 compared with the same period in 1937. In some of the republics making up the Soviet Union the increase was much greater than 12.1 per cent, reaching 93.2 per cent in the Tartar Republic.

Divorces, the government figures said, show a decided reduction. In Moscow, for example, 8,961 divorces were registered last year as compared with 16,182 in 1936.

GARMENT FIRM ORDERED TO END COMPANY UNION

Complaint Against Salt Lake City Firm Was Filed by American Federation of Labor Official.

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

Salt Lake City, Utah.—The Western Garment Manufacturing Company, of Salt Lake City, has been ordered by the National Labor Relations Board to disestablish the Employes Association of the Western Garment Manufacturing Company and to drop its contract with the company-dominated association. In addition the Board ordered the company to reimburse the employes who were members of the association for dues collected from their wages.

Charges against the Western Garment Manufacturing Company were originally filed by Paul M. Peterson, president of the Utah State Federation of Labor, affiliated with the American Federation of Labor.

The investigation of the case revealed that during June, 1937, Mr. Peterson had conducted several meetings of the employes in the textile and garment trades for the purpose of organizing into several labor organizations which claimed jurisdiction over such trades. Employes of the company attended one of the early meetings where it was announced that they all came under the jurisdiction of the International Ladies Garment Workers Union.

The evidence disclosed that about this time the Employes Association appeared on the scene, that after the association was organized the employes ceased to attend ILGWU meetings, and that early in September, 1937, the local union organized among the company's employes by the ILGWU was dissolved.

The evidence also disclosed that the Employee Association was dominated by the company. The constitution was prepared by K. Tracy Power, an attorney, and drafted by Mary Anderson, secretary to Edward I. Malouf, company manager. Shortly afterward the company and the association entered into a contract.

Butcher Workmen Open Office in Birmingham

Birmingham, Ala. (AFLWNS).—The Amalgamated Meat Cutters and Butcher Workmen of North America, affiliated with the American Federation of Labor, has opened an office here in charge of Leo B. Carter, who has served as an organizer of the American Federation of Labor in the South for a number of years.

Recently Mr. Carter acted for the American Federation of Labor in the Gulf Coast water-front fight for the A. F. of L. International Longshoremen's Association against the C. I. O. outfit dominated by Harry Bridges, the Pacific Coast Representative of John L. Lewis and his C. I. O. secessionists. The result of the Gulf Coast campaign was a complete victory for the International Longshoremen's Association, the dualists backed by Bridges and Lewis being eliminated from the New Orleans docks.

Mr. Carter is now in charge of the Amalgamated Meat Cutters and Butcher Workmen's organizing campaign in this region.

AFL Laundry Union Wins Lake Charles Contract

Lake Charles, La. (AFLWNS).—Charles R. Goldstein, general representative of the Laundry Workers International Union, affiliated with the American Federation of Labor, announced the ratification by the local union of an agreement with the laundry owners of Lake Charles for the coming year. He was assisted by President W. R. Mayo of the Central Trades and Labor Council and a subcommittee of the Council.

Good Will Plea Voiced by Green

(Continued from Page 1)

tion is a fraternal organization. Unity is its slogan. Combined effort for the common welfare is its daily practice.

To the employers of the nation the American Federation of Labor also addresses a message of good-will.'

Larger Mass Buying Power Urged

We have no fundamental quarrel with industry. On the contrary, we believe that labor and employers should work together locally and nationally for the promotion of better business, for the reduction of unemployment and for the creation of wider domestic markets by the increase of the purchasing power of our people.

The American Federation of Labor extends to cooperating employers a helping hand. We are committed to the principle of private enterprise. We believe in fair profits for private initiative.

Collective Bargaining Is Important

We also believe, and very firmly, in fair treatment of workers.

Employers should bargain collectively with their employes. They must permit their employes to organize into trade unions, free from intimidation. Contracts governing wages and hours are the fruit of collective bargaining. These contracts should be religiously observed by both sides. In this way only can industrial peace and security be promoted.

The whole program of the American Federation of Labor is a common-sense application of the spirit of good-will. We uphold the principles of democracy and individual freedom upon which our nation was founded. We seek to eliminate class warfare and industrial strife from our national life. We are confident we are making progress.

International Peace Visioned

On this Christmas night our national problems are overshadowed by world tragedy. As we survey the international scene, we see in Europe and Asia the havoc and suffering wrought by war, oppression and hatred. Nations, eyeing each other with distrust, are engaged in a mad armament race, preparing for another world war.

Surely this must not be. Surely, the human race is not going to abandon the teachings of religion and civilization and return to barbarism.

The American Federation of Labor calls upon the nations of the world to come to their senses. We call upon the peoples of the world to come to their senses.

For our own sake, for the sake of everyone and everything we hold dear, we must all of us re-embrace the Christmas spirit and re-dedicate ourselves to the restoration of international good will.

The only way in which we, as individuals or as nations, can fulfill our destiny is by fulfilling the Divine prophecy of "Peace on earth, good will toward men."

JAMES SEXTON, BRITISH LABOR LEADER, IS DEAD

(Continued from Page 1)

which increased the protection of dockers.

In 1918 Mr. Sexton was elected to Parliament from the industrial area of St. Helen's, a Liverpool suburb. He lost his seat in 1931, when the Labor party was shattered in the election that endorsed Ramsay MacDonald's "national cabinet."

Knighted by King George

On February 24, 1931, wearing a weather-beaten gray felt hat and every-day clothes, wrinkled and worn, he went to Buckingham Palace to be dubbed Sir James Sexton by King George.

To an interviewer after the ceremony, he said: "Cut out the 'Sir.'" I am still Jimmy Sexton, who worked as a dock laborer glad to draw his fifteen shillings a week. If any of the dockers think that by accepting a title I became 'respectable,' I would say to them I accepted the honor because it was a tribute to them."

Opposed Extremists

He was president of the Trades Union Congress in 1905 and a member of its general council since 1922. He had served as National Supervisor of the Dock Section, Transport and General Laborers.

Belonging to the moderate section of the old trade union leaders, Sir James frequently endangered his popularity by standing out against extremists.

In 1925 at the Scarborough meeting of the Trade Unions Congress he protested the adoption of shop committees in British workshops as "a thinly veiled attempt to pledge this conference to the principle of communism."

Sir James published his autobiography, "Sir James Sexton, Agitator," in 1936. His three-act drama, "The Riot Act," was produced successfully in Liverpool. He also wrote serial stories and contributed to The Seamen's Gazette and Chronicle.

Tuscaloosa Gas Workers Form A. F. of L. Union

Tuscaloosa, Ala. (AFLWNS).—Recognizing that labor can neither protect present living standards nor gain higher standards without organization, the employes of the Natural Gas Company in Tuscaloosa have established a union affiliated with the American Federation of Labor. S. E. Roper, A. F. of L. representative, installed the officers.

Textile Workers Union Formed in Hartsville

Harstville, S. C. (AFLWNS).—Convinced that membership in the American Federation of Labor carries definite advantages, an association of textile workers here voted to disband that group and form a local union affiliated with the A. F. of L.

C. M. Fox, A. F. of L. organizer, assisted the textile workers in forming the Textile Workers Local Union No. 21843, directly affiliated with the American Federation of Labor. Officers of the union were installed by James F. Barrett, of the Southern Office of the A. F. of L., Atlanta, Ga.

An interesting event of the banquet at which plans for the A. F. of L. union were formulated was the presence of officials of the mill where the textile workers are employed.

SALES TAX HIT

Atlanta, Ga. (AFLWNS).—The imposition of any form of sales tax was opposed by the executive board of the Georgia State Federation of Labor in a statement issued here.

The board also expressed its opposition to the proposed abolition of the poll tax.